

IN THE MATTER OF
POLICE SERGEANT PETER PAQUETTE
AND IN THE MATTER OF A HEARING INTO THE ALLEGATIONS OF MISCONDUCT
PURSUANT TO PART V, SECTION 76(9) OF THE
POLICE SERVICES ACT
AND IN THE MATTER OF A PROPOSED PLEA OF GUILTY

COUNT ONE – Discreditable Conduct (Acted in a disorderly manner or in a manner prejudicial to discipline or likely to bring discredit upon the reputation of the police force).

COUNT TWO – Unlawful or unnecessary exercise of authority by utilizing unnecessary force against a prisoner in the execution of duty.

COUNT FIVE – Discreditable Conduct (Is guilty of a criminal offence).

Agreed Statement of Facts

1. On September the 6th, 2016, the victim, a young adult female, was under arrest for being drunk in a public place, assaulting a police officer, resisting arrest and property damage. The victim was admitted in to the London Police Headquarters Detention Unit at 6:14 a.m. She was handcuffed to the rear, her ankles were restrained by zip ties and she was being escorted by two police constables and a cadet.
2. On duty in the Headquarters Detention Unit at the time was Sergeant Peter Paquette of the London Police Service.
3. During the booking process, the victim was asked to sit on a bench in the detention area and answer questions in relation to her identity. She refused to identify herself or answer questions from Sergeant Paquette. She became agitated and upset, eventually standing up and striking her head against the booking area wall.

4. In an effort to limit any self-injurious behaviour, the victim was restrained by the two constables and taken to the ground. While on the ground being restrained, she began to struggle, and attempted to turn over. During this struggle, the victim struck out with her feet and kicked one of the constables in the stomach area, causing the officers and the cadet to restrain her with their hands on the ground while leg and hand restraints were applied.
5. Sergeant Paquette approached the victim while she was being held by three officers, and kicked her in the lower back stating, "Smarten up". Sergeant Paquette then applied his left foot near the victim's head area and stated "You kick my officers, I kick you".
6. Sergeant Paquette grabbed the victim by the arms and carried her to the restraint stretcher. In the process, the victim bit the left hand of Sergeant Paquette. Sergeant Paquette then threw the victim on to the stretcher and punched her in the face once with a closed hammer fist.
7. Sergeant Paquette left to retrieve more restraint strapping and upon his return kicked the victim in the back with his foot in her buttocks area, stating, "You want to bite me?". An inappropriate verbal exchange continued between the two and Sergeant Paquette advised the victim that he would "punch you in the face again if I have to".
8. While securing the restraint strapping, the victim made motions to spit at the officers and Sergeant Paquette applied his forearm to her left jaw area restraining her head movement. A spit mask was applied and the victim was subsequently transported to hospital from the detention area as a result of her behavior. The victim did not suffer any broken bones or lacerations as a result of the encounter. Bruising was, however, present after the incident.
9. This incident was investigated by the London Police Service and as a result Sergeant Paquette was charged with one count of assault contrary to s.266 of the Criminal Code of Canada. On December 20, 2017 Sergeant Paquette entered a plea of guilty to assault. He was sentenced to a conditional discharge for two year's duration including terms requiring counselling and

100 hours of community service. Sergeant Paquette has completed the above noted counselling and community service.

10. This incident and subsequent guilty plea by Sergeant Paquette has garnered significant public and media attention in London and area. The actions of Sergeant Paquette have brought discredit upon the reputation of the London Police Service particularly given his Supervisory position within the Service and the recognition that his actions will negatively impact the trust and integrity of the London Police Service with the public.
11. The actions by Sergeant Paquette constitute misconduct of Discreditable Conduct in accordance with section 2(1)(a)(xi), and section 2(1)(a)(ix) of the Schedule Code of Conduct in Regulation 268/10 and misconduct by unlawful or unnecessary exercise of authority in accordance with section 2(1)(g)(ii) of the Schedule Code of Conduct in Regulation 268/10.
12. Sergeant Paquette has been a London Police Officer for twenty six (26) years. He has one incident of informal discipline on his record of one count of Discreditable Conduct relating to an incident that occurred on July 18, 2015 for which discipline was imposed on May 30, 2017.
13. Sergeant Paquette has taken responsibility for his actions and has agreed to enter a guilty plea.
14. In the course of this misconduct investigation, Sergeant Paquette disclosed to the London Police Service, relevant mitigating medical circumstances which have been taken into consideration as part of the joint resolution on penalty.